

passion and dedication to the arts, which is evident in her accomplishment.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOGAN SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the Logan Square Neighborhood Association in Chicago, Illinois and wish to congratulate them for their 50 years of committed community service. Their visionary leadership, strategic partnerships and compassionate dedication to our community has made a real and lasting difference in the lives of the residents of Logan Square and the Chicagoland area.

Since 1962, the Logan Square Neighborhood Association has dedicated the last five decades to building a healthy community by directly serving thousands of residents each year and impacting the lives of tens of thousands more with nationally-recognized programs in education, housing, immigration, health and the arts. The Logan Square neighborhood has benefitted greatly from the Association's commitment to change and community involvement.

Among the Logan Square Neighborhood Association's many accomplishments are Parent Mentoring programs that help students, teachers and families bridge cultural differences between immigrants' homes and the schools their children attend, creating a new approach to parent engagement in schools. By partnering with local schools, the Association established Community Learning Centers that allow elementary schools to provide convenient, evening continuing education and physical activities. The Association partnered with community organizations to banish slumlords, ending unethical practices and helping make affordable rental housing available to families. Their home ownership programs have helped more than 100 moderate-income families purchase their first home and led to the first homeownership program for teachers that was adopted by the Chicago Board of Education. The Logan Square Neighborhood Association has also developed programs focusing on living wage jobs which helped to create more than 1,400 permanent, living wage jobs in the Logan Square community.

Because of their commitment to change and to improving the Logan Square community, it makes me proud to have the Logan Square Neighborhood Association serve the residents of the 4th Congressional District. It is with great honor that I commend the Logan Square Neighborhood Association for their 50 years of effectively serving our community. I wish them continued success.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USDA

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, on May 15, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed legis-

lation to create the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Today, exactly 150 years later, Lincoln would be proud of how the USDA touches almost every aspect of our daily lives. The USDA not only protects and strengthens our rich agricultural tradition, but it also supports nutrition programs, promotes and develops rural housing, utilities and businesses, food safety, animal health, natural resource conservation, reduces our dependence on foreign oil and much, much more. Because of the USDA, rural communities have affordable electricity and broadband; poor children are able to eat a nutritious meal every day through the School Lunch Programs, and we lead the world in agriculture exports.

My district in South Texas has benefited greatly from the work of the USDA. From providing assistance to rural farmers, to biotechnology research that works to develop drought resistant crops, to developing and upgrading our aging water treatment systems, the USDA is a vital partner in keeping south Texas moving forward. That is why I am honored to extend my thanks and congratulations to Secretary Vilsack and the thousands of people at the USDA for their tireless service.

HONORING NORM NEISS FOR HIS MORE THAN 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO HIS COMMUNITY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Norm Neiss for the more than 50 years of service he has given to the Mantua community in Virginia.

Mr. Neiss dedicated his life to serving the nation, spending more than 29 years in the United States Navy as a naval aviator. He retired from the Navy in 1974, but his service to our country continued through his dedication to his community.

Mr. Neiss moved to Virginia in 1965 and has been an active member of the community ever since. He was the Chabad Lubavich Temple Liason, and he was a volunteer for the New Covenant Committee, the Architectural and Environmental Review Committee, the District Planning Commission, the Fairfax Federation, and the Fairfax County Citizen Emergency Response Team's medical corps. In addition to generously donating his time as a member of these many community organizations, Mr. Neiss served in a number of local leadership positions, heading the Providence District Council, heading the Mantua Neighborhood Watch, and serving as the President of the Mantua Community Association.

Mr. Neiss never sought recognition for his many efforts in the many organizations in which he so graciously gave of his time. Nevertheless, his neighbors noticed his dedication and the shining example that he set. They nominated Mr. Neiss as the 2012 Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations Citizen of the Year. The Federation represents the homeowners, civic, and citizen associations for Fairfax County's more than 1 million residents. Further, in recognition of his tireless service, Mr. Neiss was selected to be the Grand Marshall for the 2012 Mantua Parade on June 9th.

Mr. Neiss' life-long dedication to serving his community is a wonderful example for us all.

I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking Norm Neiss for the tireless efforts he so graciously has given over the past 50 years and to recognize the tremendous contributions he has made to the Mantua community and the nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 240, Holt of N.J. Amendment to H.R. 5326, I inadvertently missed the vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SANDY ADAMS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Bryan A. Rivera-Bruno for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Bryan has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

HONORING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF MR. STEVEN MEYER

HON. BRAD MILLER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

Mr. MILLER of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Steven Meyer on the occasion of his 90th birthday. Mr. Meyer is being honored by his family for the exceptional life he has led and for his many accomplishments in both the professional and personal realms.

Born in Moers, Germany in 1922, Mr. Meyer fled the Nazi Occupation with his family in 1939 and settled in New York, New York. Drafted by the Army in 1943, Mr. Meyer served with the Army Corps of Engineers in the European Theater of Operations. During his military career he worked as a planner for the D-Day invasion of Normandy, and while in the service Mr. Meyer gained his American citizenship. Following the war, Mr. Meyer had a 30-year career as a contract manager with Koppers Company in Pittsburgh, PA. While in Pittsburgh, he earned his degree in Mechanical Engineering from Carnegie Tech, now Carnegie Mellon. He raised two sons, Robert and Andrew, with his late wife Mrs. Irma Meyer, and has four grandchildren.